I: Roth--107 (No date) 1890 Tasmanians
116, 136, 262

"The principal kinds of Testaceae used by the aborigines as food were two species of Haliotis (H. tuberculata? and laevigata), which both attain a large size.... They were removed from the rocks (to which they closely adhere) by means of a wooden spatula-shaped instrument.... The Mussel (Mytilus sp.) ... is very common on the Derwent, on the Tamar, the north-west coast, etc.... The heaps on the Derwent and Tamar consist principally of this shell. Oysters (Ostrea sp.): these are now rather scarce in many places where their remains are abundant. The Warrenah (Turbo sp.), which is very common in many situations, seems to have been a very favourite article of food. At Cape Grim there is a heap, several feet in thickness, of this shell, formed on the top of the Cape. Limpets Patellae sp.): on the south and west coasts, these attain to a very great size. Fasciolaria trapezium: this shell I saw principally in the small heaps on the north coast; it is there abundant. A species of Purpura occurs occasionally in the heaps near Circular Head. A species of Cardium, and some of the smaller bivalves, were used on the Derwent, where these shells are common.... The period of time which has elapsed since the shells were removed from the sea (in most cases the latest must be upwards of thirty years), joined to their partial calcination by the aborigines in roasting, has caused their decomposition to be considerable.'"

1: Roth--166
116, 136, 825

(No date) 1890

Tasmanians

"The following curious notes on the habits of some of the fauna of Tasmania were related to Milligan by the aborigines:

'Wombat (Phascolomys Vombatus). --The aborigines of Tasmania state that, though this animal often crosses streams of water, it never does so by swimming, however deep they may be; but that it walks along the bottom of the water channel from the side at which it enters to that where it emerges.

'Hyoena (Thylacinus cynocephalus). --The aborigines report that this animal is a most powerful swimmer; that in swimming he carries his tail extended, moving it as the dog often does, and that the nose, eyes, and upper portion of the head are the only parts usually seen above water.

'Snakes. --The aborigines inform me that snakes often climb lofty trees in order to plunder the nests of parrakeets and feed upon their young; and that when disturbed, they drop from a great height, and move off apparently uninjured by the fall. They say that snakes often feed, and even gorge themselves, upon the fruit of the native currant tree (when dead ripe). The aborigines describe a tail-less snake whose bite is they say most deadly' (Papers, Roy. Soc. Van Diemen's Land, 1852, p. 310).

'One of the aborigines of Tasmania reports having often discovered the nest of the Echidna setosa, porcupine or ant-eater of the colony; that on several occasions one egg had been found in it, and never more' (Proc. Roy. Soc. Van Diemen's Land, I. p. 178)."